

## Accomplishments

The project director, Sgt. Dorothy Ardes, commented, “Without the General Assembly and GCC supported grant, the police department would have less contact with gang members and would not be as effective in curtailing their influence in the community.” In particular, the project has:

- Successfully identified over 16 new gang members to add to the database of known gang members.
- Made it more difficult for gang members to carry out their criminal enterprises by concentrating efforts around known gang strongholds within the community. The police department has shut down five gang drug houses.
- Photographed and documented every new instance of gang graffiti within the city.

Feedback from citizens has been most positive and encouraging:

*“The neighbors of the 200 and 300 blocks of Leslie Street would like to say thank you for your efforts to clean up the streets. Your actions are proving to be positive and there is a definite difference . . . your efforts are not in vain. It’s nice to get up in the middle of the night, look outside your window and see nobody in the streets and listen to total quiet. Once again, thank you for all your efforts and hard work. Please share this with your staff and city council members.” Milton H.*

